



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
LANSING



STEVEN E. CHESTER
DIRECTOR

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AWWA MI Section: Water Security Committee
MDEQ Water Bureau Security and Emergency Response Program News



1. Contracts

The follow are summaries of two public water and wastewater contracts that will be completed over the next 2.25 years. Letters to the intended facilities will be sent out with more information in the upcoming months.

A. VACIP followup: Camp Dresser & McKee (contract effective 9/15/06)

I. Purpose

The purpose of the public water system (PWS) Vulnerability Assessment Capital Improvement Program (VA CIP) follow-up is to improve public water system security by implementing changes identified in the individual public water system vulnerability assessments. The VA CIP follow-up contract is intended to assist the PWS in the implementation of their VA CIP and improve water security in the State.

The VA CIP follow-up contract is not a compliance assessment. All Michigan communities that were required to complete a VA complied with the Bioterrorism Act of 2002 (BA).

II. Background/problem statement

The Bioterrorism Act of 2002, which amended the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, required 288 public water systems in Michigan which serve a

population greater than 3,300 to complete a vulnerability assessment (VA) of the security of their public water system.

III. Need

Change is needed to implement the water security program which has been identified and prioritized in the vulnerability assessment of the public water system. Without the implementation of the capital improvements identified in the public water system's vulnerability assessment, the water system will not have reduced the systems vulnerability and will be less secure.

IV. Schedule

CDM will assist the DEQ in the 288 PWS's implementation of their water security improvements by visiting approximately 3 PWS's per week in 2.25 years along with the other contract performance requirements. Telephone conferences are also a part of the contract.

[B. TTX/TTT: Patriot Services Inc. \(contract effective 9/15/06\)](#)

I. Summary

Patriot Services Inc. has been selected as the contractor to perform 10 Train The Trainer (TTT) conferences and 30 tabletop exercises (TTX's) for water sector facilities for the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

II. Background/Problem Statement

Community and non-community public water systems and wastewater systems have historically developed and maintained emergency contingency plans which were responsive to system outages due to weather related incidents and acts of vandalism. As a result of the terrorists attacks which occurred on 9/11/01, and subsequent global events, water and wastewater systems need to consider malevolent acts of terrorism as potential problems the utilities may encounter and incorporate such acts into emergency contingency plans. Table Top Exercises are a method of incorporating malevolent acts of terrorism into local responsiveness planning.

This proposal is a two phase approach to improving public water and wastewater systems' emergency contingency plans. . First, 10 day long Train the Trainer (TTT) conferences on How To Conduct Table Top Exercises will be conducted as a method of teaching public water and wastewater utilities how to perform their own table top exercises on an annual basis. Second, tabletop exercises (TTX's) [generally lasting less than 4 hours] will be conducted at 30 community and non-community drinking water and public wastewater systems prioritized by population. (Appendices A, B, C)

Michigan has approximately 1,500 public water systems and approximately 500 public wastewater systems. Engaging a contractor to perform Tabletop Exercises (TTXs) at all 2,000 public water and wastewater systems (Appendices A & C) is not realistic. Contingency plans and emergency response plans need to be used on routine basis, e.g., annually, in order for them to be current and useful. TTXs are useful in updating and maintaining appropriate responsiveness to the public utility in the event of a malevolent act.

III. Contract

Item #1: Train the Trainer on How to Perform Table Top Exercises

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) will engage a contractor for the purposes of planning and conducting public water and wastewater systems Train the Trainer (TTT) one day conferences on how to conduct a table top exercise (TTX) at 10 locations throughout the state.

Conducting Train the Trainer (TTT) conferences on how to perform Table Top Exercises (TTX's) at public water and wastewater systems would allow attendees to go back to their utilities and conduct their own TTXs, as well as advise other utilities on how to conduct TTXs.

The TTTs should inform the utilities on how to conduct a TTX involving all facets of a TTX including: planning, management, objectives, participation invitations of numerous organizations, sample scenarios, agendas, introductions, evaluations, ending discussion, and no fault basis of operation.

Item #2: Table Top Exercises (TTX's)

Patriot Services Inc. will conduct 15 community and 5 non-community water and 10 wastewater system table top exercises (TTX's) at 30 locations throughout the state based on population and where the MDEQ has not conducted a TTX. The contractor would go to the community or non-community water and wastewater system and provide exercise scenarios for the response of the officials of the community. Evaluation of the officials' responses to the exercise scenarios would be provided. The exercises would be operated on a no fault basis. As appropriate as indicated by the owner of the community and non-community water and wastewater system, tours of facilities after the completion of the exercise would be a part of the exercise.

IV. Objective

The objective of the TTXs is to bring key community and non-community water and wastewater personnel together, along with key public safety [police and fire department] officials, at the facility, along with DEQ personnel to use and evaluate the existing ERP/CP for possible revisions. Policies and procedures would be reviewed and system

personnel public safety officials would be gain experience in responding to exercise scenarios.

V. Purpose

The purpose of conducting TTXs is to provide community and non-community water and wastewater systems experience in using their emergency response plans (ERP) and contingency plans (CP) in order to improve local responsiveness in the event of a malevolent event. The purpose of conducting TTTs is to enable local public water and wastewater officials to perform TTXs on their own and to allow them to inform others on how to conduct TTXs.

VI. Need

Community and non-community water and wastewater officials need to be a part of the community police, fire, and hospitals' emergency response activities. The community and non-community water and wastewater systems are key assets of the community's critical infrastructure and local officials need to be active partners in working together to protect their systems.

ERP/CP's are only as good as they are developed and used. TTXs and TTT conferences will provide information and experience that the community and non-community water and wastewater systems can use in continuing the TTX process on an annual basis.

2. AWWA Water Security Congress Conference: Sept 10-12, 2006: Washington, D.C.

I had the privilege to attend the Water Security Congress in Washington, D.C. It's an international conference that had a strong technical emphasis on water real-time monitoring. Chemical, physical, and biological real time monitoring methods are being developed in the United States as well as other countries. For a more detailed summary, attend the MI Section Water Security committee meeting or review the handy CD that all attendees received.

Robert F. Babcock
Security & Emergency Response Coordinator
Water Bureau
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Constitution Hall, 2nd floor
525 W. Allegan St.
P. O. Box 30273
Lansing, MI 48933-7773
USA
voice: 517 373 8566
fax: 517 373 2040
email: babcockr@mi.gov